



Minute board meeting 10:30 – 11.50:a.m. 15 November 2011, Urban Camp Melbourne Co-operative, Parkville

PRESENT: Niel Black, Tony O'Shea (Chairman), David Dinning, Rowan Dowland, Diane Batterham Shirley Farm and David Griffiths (Secretary)

APOLOGIES: Not Applicable

1. Minute

That the minute of the board meeting of 6 September 2011 be accepted as a true and accurate record.
CARRIED

2. Business arising from meeting of 6 September 2011:

2.1 CFNSW

The Chairman reported that he continued to liaise with Tony Rogic but that there was no progress to date on future co-operation between CFNSW and Co-operatives Victoria although there was an in principle agreement.

2.2 Co-operative Education

It was noted that Mervyn Wilson will be a keynote speaker at the AMI conference on 3 March 2012 and the CEHL national housing co-operative conference on 8 March 2012.

The Chairman reported that the Bendigo Bank had agreed to a meeting with Mervyn Wilson.

The Secretary advised that there was a need to address (a) further meeting commitments and (b) the cost of the visit.

ACTION: Chairman

2.3 CAV

It was noted that there was nothing to report.

2.4 Co-operatives Australia

It was noted that there had been a Co-operatives Australia conference call on 23 September 2011 and a number of decisions made regarding the 2nd Co-operative Summit organised by the IYC Secretariat and

the IYC National Steering Committee and, in particular, concern about establishing a Social Business Council too soon without sufficient consideration of the options.

The Secretary advised that as Co-operatives Victoria chaired CA there was a responsibility to convey this view at the Second Chair & CEOs Summit on the 22 November 2011.

ACTION: Chairman

2.5 Co-operatives National Law

It was noted that it was still expected that CNL would be adopted by States and Territories in 2012.

The Secretary reported that NSW Fair Trading had released a discussion paper on Financial Reporting Obligations for Small Co-operatives with a closing date for submissions is the 7 December 2011

It was noted that the Co-operatives National Law will be supported by national regulations as part of a scheme to achieve uniformity. A major change is that there will be a relaxation of financial reporting and audit requirements for small co-operatives to recognise the lower risk associated with these entities. The definition of a small co-operative and the nature of any reduced reporting or audit requirements will be the subject of National regulations to support the Co-operatives National Law.

It was agreed that the Secretary would draft a submission in consultation with the Chairman and this would be circulated to all directors on the basis that silence was acquiescence.

ACTION: All

2.6 International Year of Co-operatives

2.6.1 Stamp and ABS Year Book

It was noted that the Secretary had worked with MG, Terang and CEHL to secure photos and profiles of these three co-ops and the material was forwarded to the IYC Secretariat and that the IYC had also approached bankmecu as a contributor.

There was no decision on this.

2.6.2 Co-op Start Up Manual

It was noted that information on revising and upgrading the Co-op Start Up Manual had been circulated to CA members and that Co-operatives WA had responded positively. There is a need to clarify IYC National Committee and Secretariat involvement.

There was no decision on this.

2.6.3 Top 100 Co-operatives, Credit Unions and Mutuals 2012 List.

It was noted that there was a need to clarify IYC National Committee and Secretariat involvement and timing.

There was no decision on this.

2.6.4 IYC Launch 22 November 2012

It was noted that the Australian launch of IYC 2012 was on 22 November 2012 at Parliament House, Canberra.

It was noted that CV was funding Tasmanian co-operative representation at the launch.

The Secretary pointed out that he had proposed that a Tasmanian co-operative representative attend the launch instead of himself.

3. Financial Statements

The Treasurer tabled the financial reports:

Profit and Loss 1 July 2010 – 15 November 2010

Balance Sheet 15 November 2011

That the financial reports be accepted.

CARRIED

4. Other Matters

4.1 Hepburn Wind

It was noted that the co-operative has now provided the application and delegate forms.

4.2 Tasmanian Co-operatives

It was noted that the web site has been established and that if the Rule changes were approved at the AGM it would be possible to have a Tasmanian co-operative representative on the board.

4.4 Web Sites

It was noted that work on upgrading education.victoria.coop had been completed and that the next site to be upgraded was australia.coop.

ACTION: Secretary

4.5 Board Meetings Venue

Rowan Dowling reported that bankmecu would be pleased to host future board meetings.

5. Peter Cox

The Secretary advised that he had been contacted by a former employee of the John Lewis Partnership who had written a book on the John Lewis Partnership (the UK's second largest co-operative) who would be visiting Australia in January 2012. He reported that he had referred the visit to Employee Ownership Australia.

He reported that Peter Cox would be making a presentation at 5:30 pm, Tuesday, 24 January 2012 at the offices of Greenwood Freehills, 101 Collins Street, Melbourne. Freehills would have branding rights on the invite as well as Employee Ownership Australia, Social Business Australia and Co-operatives Victoria. It would be considered an Australian IYC 2012 event.

6. Business Plan

Rowan suggested that it was important that CV provided value for existing and potential members and he proposed that a business plan should be developed and that bankmecu would fund a facilitator.

It was agreed that there should be a business plan workshop and bankmecu was thanked for its generosity.

It was agreed that the workshop should be held early in 2012 and that on 2 December 2011 there would be a planning meeting for the workshop to be attended by those directors interested and available.

ACTION: All

7. Consultancy Services

Rowan queried whether or not CV had insured to cover the consultancy services being provided to SEHC.

The Chairman said that this would be examined.

ACTION: Chairman

8. Future Meetings

Informal - 02 December 2012 at bankmecu

Board - 14 February 2012 at bankmecu

Prepared by Secretary: 19 November 2011

Authorised by Chairman: